

**CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD**

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**REPORT OF THE BOARD OF STEWARDS  
LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE  
Cypress, California  
TO THE CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD**

Honorable Gregory L. Ferraro DVM, Chairman  
Honorable Oscar Gonzales, Vice Chairman  
Honorable Dennis V. Alfieri, Member  
Honorable Damascus Castellanos, Member  
Honorable Brenda Washington Davis, Member  
Honorable Thomas C. Hudnut, Member  
Honorable Peter Stern, Member  
C. Scott Chaney, Executive Director  
Cynthia Alameda, Deputy Executive Director  
Darrel McHargue, Chief Steward

**Report for the Week of Wednesday, February 18, through Sunday, February 22, 2026.**

**WEDNESDAY**2/18/26<sup>1</sup>**DUTY STEWARD**

Steward Ron Church was present to supervise entries for Saturday, February 21, 2026, and will record the minutes for this reporting period.

2/18/26<sup>2</sup>**FATALITY REVIEW**

Steward Ron Church, Safety Steward Eddie Rich and Jocelyn Lorbiecki DVM, attended the fatality review for the three-year-old thoroughbred gelding "General Jackson" trained by Genaro Vallejo, who was also present.

**THURSDAY**2/19/26<sup>1</sup>**TRAINER MARCIA STORTZ - COMPLANT (Case #26LA0007)**

Trainer Marcia Stortz appeared before the Board of Stewards for a tape-recorded hearing to address the complaint filed against her by California Horse Racing Board Regulatory Veterinarian Rebecca Fitzgerald, alleging a violation of CHRB rule #1846.2 (Training Soundness Examination). California Horse Racing Board Investigator Barrett Halcromb presented the case and after evidence and testimony were submitted for the record, the hearing was concluded. Decision Forthcoming.

2/19/26<sup>2</sup>**FINANCIAL COMPLAINT (Case #26LA0014) – WITHDRAWN**

The financial complaint filed against owner Anne Wisdom by Gordon Feed Inc. was dismissed, after the Stewards were notified by CHRB Supervising Investigator Kevin Kitashima that the debt had been resolved.

2/19/26<sup>3</sup>**ENTRIES AND SCRATCHES**

Steward Ron Church was once again present to supervise entries for Sunday, February 22, 2026, and changes to Saturday's program.

2/19/26<sup>4</sup>

**ENTRY PANEL**

The entry panel met this morning to review the entries for Saturday's program. Following the review, there were no recommended panel changes.

**FRIDAY**

2/20/26<sup>1</sup>

**ENTRY PANEL**

The entry panel met this morning to review the entries for Sunday's program. Following the review there were four entries designated as hard watches.

2/20/26<sup>2</sup>

**SCRATCHES AND CHANGES**

Steward Ron Church was present to supervise scratches and changes to Sunday's program.

**SATURDAY**

2/21/26<sup>1</sup>

**RULING #15**

Ruling #15

Trainer MARCIA STORTZ is issued an OFFICIAL WARNING for violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1846.2 (Training Soundness Examination).

After considering Ms. Stortz's testimony at the informal hearing held on Thursday February 19, 2026, and noting that she has no prior violations of CHRB Rule #1846.2, we issued the above ruling. The decision was unanimous.

2/21/26<sup>2</sup>

**INQUIRY – DISQUALIFICATION – 5<sup>TH</sup> RACE**

The Stewards posted the Inquiry sign following the running of the fifth race for a review of an incident entering the far turn involving #4 Sheza Gemini Jewel (Pedro Flores) fourth and #3 Mia Mac (Cristobal Herrera) who finished last. After reviewing the video of the race, the Stewards decided unanimously to disqualify #4 Sheza Gemini Jewel from fourth to last.

Video shows #4 drifting in entering the far turn making contact with #3 forcing her rider to take back, losing ground and the opportunity of a better placing.

Original Order of Finish 2-6-1-(4)-5-3

Official Order of Finish 2-6-1-5-3-(4)

2/21/26<sup>3</sup>

**TRAINER/JOCKEY OBJECTION – 8<sup>TH</sup> RACE**

The Stewards had the Objection sign posted at the request of Trainer Scott Willoughby (O Seeyalater 8<sup>th</sup>) who lodged a claim of foul against the fourth-place finisher #4 Terra Fina ridden by Ruben Lozano. In addition, Jockey Jonathan Roman, the rider of #2 VGK Zigfield Follies, who finished last, also joined in the Objection.

After speaking with the trainer and riders involved and reviewing the video of the race, the Stewards decided unanimously to make no change in the original order of finish.

Video shows there was mutual contact mid-race between #3 O Seeyalater and #2 VGK Zigfield Follies, causing the latter to shift in over the heels of #1 Eyes Wagon My Tale and take back sharply.

2/21/26<sup>4</sup>

**DECLARATIONS, CHANGES AND REFUNDS**

1<sup>st</sup> Race No Changes

2<sup>nd</sup> Race #5 Drop The Bit (Tr. S. Morfin) Injured – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$115.40

3<sup>rd</sup> Race No Changes

4<sup>th</sup> Race No Changes

5<sup>th</sup> Race No Changes

6<sup>th</sup> Race #5 Bit Of A Sneak (Tr. S. Willoughby) Injured – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$361.00

#6 Corazon Agavero (Tr. A. Farias) Sick – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$151.29

7<sup>th</sup> Race No Changes

8<sup>th</sup> Race No Changes

2/21/26<sup>5</sup>

**DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

<b>ON TRACK</b>	703	\$82,641.10
<b>SCOTWINC</b>	1,061	\$225,203.60
<b>OUT OF STATE + ADW</b>	N/A	\$772,850.07
<b>TOTAL</b>	1,764	\$1,080,694.77

**SUNDAY**

2/22/26<sup>1</sup>

**VIDEO REVIEW**

Jockey Pedro Flores met with the Stewards for a review of his ride in the fifth race last night. Mr. Flores mount was disqualified for interference going into the far turn. Mr. Flores acknowledged he drifted in on the turn but felt the horse on his outside contributed to the pressure. In a majority decision, Steward Nuesch dissenting, Mr. Flores was issued a warning.

2/22/26<sup>2</sup>

**TOTE BOARD MALFUNCTION**

At the start of tonight's card, the tote board froze and could not display current odds and pools. Ultimately, the main portion of the board was shutdown, however, the final order of finish and mutuel payoffs could still be displayed. A letter of explanation was requested by the Stewards to more accurately describe the issue.

2/22/26<sup>3</sup>

**RACE 4 – JOCKEY OBJECTION**

Following the running of the fourth race, jockey Armando Aguilar, who was aboard the fourth-place finisher Lena Lindgard, lodged an objection against the third-place finisher Ro Town and jockey Ricardo Ramirez, for interference entering the far turn. After reviewing the race thoroughly, the Stewards unanimously agreed that the claim of foul could not be substantiated, so the original order of finish was made official.

2/22/26<sup>4</sup>

**DECLARATIONS, CHANGES AND REFUNDS**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Race #2 Rusty Boy (Tr. C. Treece) Injured – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$387.10
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Race #3 Littlebrotherjoey (G. Vallejo) Unsound – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$474.05
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Race #2 Connect The Drops (Tr. S. McGowan) Injured – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$211.10
- 4<sup>th</sup> Race No Change
- 5<sup>th</sup> Race #1 Tenacious Candy (Tr. T. Dial) Insurance – Stewards – Refund: \$680.93
- 6<sup>th</sup> Race No Changes
- 7<sup>th</sup> Race No Changes
- 8<sup>th</sup> Race #4 Hassan PP (Tr. R. Viramontes) Unsound – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$536.74

2/22/26<sup>5</sup>

**DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

<b>ON TRACK</b>	614	\$74,686.90
<b>SCOTWINC</b>	869	\$205,723.30
<b>OUT OF STATE + ADW</b>	N/A	\$921,294.22
<b>TOTAL</b>	1,483	\$1,201,704.42

**SUMMARY**

	<b>Fri 2/20</b>	<b>Sat 2/21</b>	<b>Sun 2/22</b>	<b>Week</b>	<b>Meet</b>
<b>Accidents</b>	D	0	0	0	3
<b>Cal-Bred Races</b>	A	0	0	0	0
<b>3Claims</b>	R	0	1	1	13
<b>Disqualifications</b>	K	1	0	1	2
<b>Inquiries</b>	D	2	1	3	12
<b>Refunds</b>	A	3	5	8	44
<b>Rulings</b>	Y	1	0	1	15
<b>Voided Claims</b>		0	0	0	6

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Ron Church, Steward

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Tom Ward, Steward

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David Nuesch, Steward

BOS:RC:dj